

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application.

LISTING OF CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A magnetic powder comprising:

an alloy composition represented by $R_x(\text{Fe}_{1-y}\text{Co}_y)_{100-x-z-w}\text{B}_2\text{Nb}_w$ (where R is at least one rare-earth element that consists of Nd and Pr, x is 7.1 – 9.9 at%, y is 0 - 0.30, z is 4.6 – 6.9 at%, and w is 0.2 – 3.5 at%); and

the magnetic powder including a composite structure having a soft magnetic phase and a hard magnetic phase, the soft magnetic phase being constrained through the coupling of the surrounding hard magnetic phase so that the magnetic powder exhibits functions like a hard magnetic body,

wherein the magnetic powder has a particle size in the range of 0.5 – 150 μm , and magnetic properties in which, when the magnetic powder is mixed with a binding resin and molded into an isotropic bonded magnet, an irreversible susceptibility (X_{irr}), which is measured by using an intersection of a demagnetization curve in the J-H diagram representing the magnetic properties at room temperature and a straight line which passes through the origin in the J-H diagram and has a gradient (J/H) of -3.8×10^{-6} H/m, as a starting point, is equal to or less than 5.0×10^{-7} H/m, and the intrinsic coercive force (H_C) at room temperature is in the range of 400 478-720 kA/m.

2. (Previously Presented) The magnetic powder as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the magnetic powder is formed into an isotropic bonded magnet having a density

ρ [Mg/m^3] by mixing with a binding resin and the molding the remanent magnetic flux density $\text{Br}[\text{T}]$ at room temperature satisfies the relationship represented by the formula of $\text{Br}/\rho [\times 10^{-6} \text{T} \cdot \text{m}^3/\text{g}] > 0.125$.

3. (Previously Presented) The magnetic powder as claimed in claim 1, wherein when the magnetic powder is formed into an isotropic bonded magnet by mixing with a binding resin and then molding the absolute value of the irreversible flux loss (initial flux loss) is equal to or less than 6.2%.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Previously Presented) The magnetic powder as claimed in claim 1, wherein a ratio of Pr with respect to the total mass of said R is 5 – 75%.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Previously Presented) The magnetic powder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the magnetic powder has been obtained by quenching the alloy in a molten state.

8. (Previously Presented) The magnetic powder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the magnetic powder has been obtained by milling a melt spun ribbon of the alloy produced on a cooling roll.

9. (Previously Presented) The magnetic powder as claimed in claim 1, wherein the magnetic powder has been subjected to a heat treatment for at least once during the manufacturing process or after manufacturing.